FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 DECEMBER 1986

Iran

Frozen Assets — Citing British press reports on the resumption of U.S.-Iranian talks in The Hague, IRNA referred to "optimistic" signs that the United States will move toward releasing the Iranian assets it froze in 1979. The current session in The Hague is focusing on 500 million dls of Iranian funds frozen in U.S. bank accounts, Hilversum radio noted.

Stand on ICO Conference — President 'Ali Khamene'i told the visiting ICO secretary general that the ICO conference should not be held in a country bordering a war zone, stressing that it should take place in a "neutral" country where Muslim leaders can meet in peace and security, Tehran radio reported. Khamene'i also regretted the ICO's failure to take a "decisive" stance toward the Iran-Iraq war, but he expressed Iran's readiness to make the ICO more active in implementing Islamic goals. Khamene'i's remarks were in response to the ICO official's call for Iran to send a top-level delegation to the forthcoming ICO conference in Kuwait.

Lebanon

Nabih Birri announced that the Amal Movement had asked its fighters throughout Lebanon to cease fire 29 December as a "good-will" gesture to mark the new year and in light of the stand taken by Syria and Iran. Speaking at a Damascus news conference reported by Beirut radio, the Amal leader said his forces will allow food and medicine into Al-Rashidiyah camp as of 1 January, and he stressed that Amal is working to implement the Iranian cease-fire plan, despite PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's refusal to do likewise. He alleged that 'Arafat wants to keep the situation tense until the ICO summit in January.

Despite the cease-fire announcement, Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio accused Amal of continuing to shell Palestinian camps in Beirut, noting reports that 2 people were killed and 20 injured in Burj al-Barajinah. Palestinian sources cited by the UAE daily *Al-Ittihad disclosed that Jordan has allowed Fatah units to* leave its territory to reinforce PLO forces in Lebanon, according to WAM.

Saudi Arabia

In remarks to the Council of Ministers carried by SPA, King Fahd stressed Saudi solidarity with OPEC objectives and hoped for increased oil revenues. The king asserted that the slight reduction in the Saudi budget for the next fiscal year will not affect the "general framework" of national financial planning.

Defense Minister Prince Sultan and the visiting PDRY energy minister reviewed ways to develop fraternal relations, Aden radio reported, adding that Prince Sultan accepted a letter for King Fahd from PDRY leader Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas.

Pakistan

Two people were killed by a car bomb in Peshawar 30 December, AFP reported, noting that the explosion was the latest in a wave of bombings allegedly planned by DRA agents.

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Ziaul Haq Addresses Intellectuals, Urges Unity

BK260529 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Excerpts] The convention of intellectuals and prominent persons in connection with the birth anniversary of Qaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah concluded in Islamabad last night after identifying major problems facing the country and discussing possible steps for their effective solution.

Winding up the concluding session of the convention, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq underscored the need for forging complete national unity and said this objective can be achieved only by establishing a true Islamic system which is the basis of this country. He cautioned the people against the schemes of the enemies of the country, who want to weaken it internally so that they can fulfill their nefarious designs. However, the president said, nobody can harm a united naitonal which has self-confidence and which nurtures the ambition to survive and to march forward. He dismissed the apprehensions of the vested interests about the future of the country, saying that Pakistan's people and its Armed Forces are fully capable of defending the country's security, solidarity, independence, and sovereignty.

The president said the sole objective of our efforts should be to accelerate the process of Islamization in the country, as it is the only solution of all our problems. In doing so, we must keep in mind two principles, and they are: all our laws should be in line with the teachings of the Holy Koran and the Holy Prophet and the people should be provided with inexpensive justice. This will enable us to establish a true Islamic welfare society, he observed.

The president assured the participants of the convention that the recommendations made by intellectuals and scholars for solving the country's problems will be given due consideration. The recommendations falling under his jurisdiction will be addressed by the president himself, while others needing the attention of the executive head will be forwarded to Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo. [passage omitted]

The president described the recent Karachi incidents as highly regrettable and said the need of the hour is to identify the real causes of these incidents and then their solutions. He reiterated the constant need for forging national unity and harmony to prevent the recurrence of such incidents. We should resolve our problems with mutual consultation in the spirit of brotherhood and work toward establishment of a durable political process in the country, the president observed.

Earlier, spokesmen of those nine groups, which had been set up to identify basic problems facing the country, submitted their respective reports. Almost every group has underscored the need for forging national unity and harmony and for making the country a true Islamic welfare state. The participants of the convention observed that the greatest problem is to protect the national integrity from internal disturbances and external threats. Certain groups underscored the need for a purposeful educational system so as to provide education to the common masses in accordance with national requirements.

Some groups stressed the need for reorganization of the administrative structure in provinces. One group underlined the need for holding elections on party basis as soon as possible and for the establishment of procedure of accountability. [passage omitted]

Soviet Envoy Meets With Zain Noorani 29 Dec

BK291539 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to Pakistan Abdul-Rakhman Khalil Ogly Vezirov called on Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani in Islamabad today and discussed with him matters of mutual interest.

Convening of Political Conference Denied

BK291531 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] An official spokesman in Islamabad today categorically denied a report allegedly broadcast by the Voice of Germany and published in an Urdu daily which quoted President Mohammad Ziaul Haq as saying that he has decided to convene a round table conference of political leaders. The spokesman described the report as totally baseless as the president has never made any statement or expressed any opinion about this.

'Stricter' Visa Requirements Enforced 1 Jan

LD261419 Hamburg DPA in German 1226 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Islamabad, 24 Dec (DPA) — From January 1 Pakistan will require every citizen of the Federal Republic to have a transmit visa. This will also apply to single stopovers. This was announced by the Pakistani authorities in Islamabad today. Pakistan has introduced these stricter visa requirements in response to similar measures by Bonn.

On 7 November the Bundesrate approved a provision of the aliens legislation in connection with a stricter interpretation of the right to asylum, in accordance with which citizens of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Iran, Lebanon, and Syria must have a visa even for single stopovers in the Federal Republic. The reason given was that it was from these countries in particular that numerous asylum-seekers had used a stopover at German airports to apply for asylum.

Maritime Security Agency Created 29 Dec

BK291638 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Pakistan Maritime Security Agency has been created to enforce national laws and international agreements in the maritime zone of the country. The agency will provide assistance in protecting Pakistan's exclusive economic zone from poaching, antismuggling operations, and maintenance of coastal facilities. The zone stretches 200 miles seaward off the coast.

Indian Government Asked To Stop Building Dam
BK241555 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] The Pakistani Government has asked the Indian Government to stop construction of Wular barrage on Chenab River in India. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that Pakistan has clarified its points of view to the Indus Valley Commission in this connection, the meeting of which was held in New Delhi recently. The spokesman said both parties agreed that they will compile questions based on the agreed strategy and both countries will try to solve this problem in light of these questions. If this problem has not been solved, it will be put before both governments to be solved on the diplomatic level. And even then, if no solution has been found, it will be put forward for arbitration.

2 Killed by Bomb; Wave of Blasts Reported
BK300938 Hong Kong AFP in English 0925 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 30 (AFP) — Two persons, including a police officer, were killed and another policeman badly wounded Tuesday when a car packed with explosives blew up at a police station in Peshawar, near Pakistan's border with Afghanistan, police said. Explosions were also reported elsewhere in the city gripped for the past few weeks by a fresh wave of bomb blasts, allegedly by Afghan agents, but details of casualties were not immediately available.

According to the police, the explosion in the Peshawar west police station compound was so powerful that it shook the whole area, rattling windows in many houses in the district. They said the bomb was placed in a suspected car impounded earlier by the local police. It went off when police officer Niqab Shah, was searching the vehicle.

Niqab Shah and his driver died on the spot while another constable received serious injuries. The blast also destroyed another car parked in the police compound, police said.

Police cordoned off the area, but so far no arrests had been made.

SRI LANKA

Amparai Proposal Turned Down in Note to India

BK251200 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Sri Lanka's High Commissioner in India, Bernard Tilakaratna, flew to New Delhi from Colombo on Tuesday taking with him a special message to the Indian Government that Sri Lanka would not agree to any proposal to delink Amparai District from the Eastern Province. The message includes a signed statement by five government Muslim MP's in the Eastern Province expressing opposition to such a move and setting out their common position in regard to religious matters.

Mr Tilakaratna, who was yesterday expected to hand over to Foreign Secretary A.P. Venkateswaran this message for [words indistinct] transmission to Indian leaders.

Three rounds of talks between India and Sri Lanka ended in a deadlock last week over the contentious issue of the Tamil demand for a merged north and east. During the final round last Friday between President J.R. Jayewardene and two Indian ministers, special emissaries of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, a proposal to delink Amparai District from the Eastern Province and then set up a provincial council there emerged. This council and the one proposed for the north will be linked together by institutional arrangements. This would have boosted Amparai's Tamil population from 40 to 49 percent, Muslims from 33 to 37 percent, and brought down Sinhalese from 26 to 13 percent.

Indian Minister of State for Home Affairs Chidambaram and Minister of State for External Affairs Natwar Singh would discuss with Tamil groups in Madras about the new proposal. The Indian Government belives that it would now be able to do so taking into consideration the government's opposition to delink Amparai District.

'Direct' Government, LTTE Discussions Held

BK271300 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, direct discussion between the Sri Lankan Government goodwill delegation and the leaders of the militant Tamil group — Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] — took place at Kankesanturai in Jaffna peninsula today. The 3-member government delegation led by a ruling party MP, Mr Vincent Perera, had discussions with Jaffna District commander of LTTE, Mr Kittu, for about 2 hours. Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, reports from Jaffna that this is the first-ever direct contact between a Sri Lankan Government delegation and the militant groups. The earlier contacts were through Indian good offices, the last being at Thimpu in August last year.

Although no official statement on the talks was immediately available, our correspondent understands that the talks covered all areas of mutual concern and the ethnic crisis. The Jaffna District commander of the LTTE, Mr Kittu, told our correspondent immediately after the talks that while there can be more direct contacts like this to exchange ideas and to help build mutual understanding, any negotiation for long-term solution has to be through India's good offices. He said that the need for a negotiator arose because, as he put it, the LTTE cannot trust the Sri Lankan Government to give in to real Tamil aspirations.

AFP Reports on Talks

BK271422 Hong Kong AFP in English 1400 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Colombo, Dec 27 (AFP) — The strongest Tamil militant group met in northern Sri Lanka Saturday with a goodwill mission from Colombo to discuss ways to end the bloody separatist conflict, reliable sources said. The goodwill mission led by government MP, Vincent Perera, met with the northern leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), Krishna Kumar, and five others to seek their views on a solution to the crisis that has claimed nearly 5,000 lives since mid-1983 and seriously affected the economy.

Senior government sources stressed that it was not an official government mission and said that Saturday's meeting and discussions in the Jaffna peninsula could not be interpreted as "direct talks" between President Junius Jayewardene's administration and the LTTE.

The LTTE has emerged as the main separatist group claiming recognition as the true representative of the Tamils. The sources said that the mission's aim was to continue indirect contacts made earlier with the LTTE in the hope that the two sides could eventually "formalise the contacts," and possibly pave the way for direct talks.

The LTTE's northern Deputy Commander S. Canagaratnam, alias Captain Rahim, also told *Agence France-Presse* after the talks that Saturday's meeting did not constitute "direct talks with the government," adding that the goodwill mission could not be described as a government delegation. But both sides agreed that the mission, which also included the secretary-general of the political parties conference, which earlier this year discussed ways to end the separatist conflict, and a lawyer engaged in the current mediation talks with India, had Colombo's "blessings."

Captain Rahim described the talks as "quite friendly," and said that they had given the two sides an opportunity to "understand each other's problems." He added that the talks covered "all issues concerning both sides." He said that the LTTE had told the mission that if the government had any proposals to end the conflict they should be discussed with the LTTE leadership based in Madras, southern India. The LTTE spokesman said there were no immediate plans for the mission to return to Jaffna for a further round of talks.

The mission, which met with the LTTE delegation in the city of Kankesanturai at the northern tip of the Jaffna peninsula, flew back to Colombo later Saturday and briefed Mr Jayewardene on the nature and content of the talks, sources said. Meanwhile the government and LTTE agreed on a 24-hour truce Christmas Day, which was extended to cover Friday, and no fatal incidents

involving the two sides have been reported, sources on both sides said.

The government reported that LTTE cadres had fired at home guards at a village in the northeast but no casualties were recorded. LTTE sources said troops had come out on patrol in the Mullaittivu area in the east but withdrew when LTTE members fired at them. Some analysts said that the government's intention appeared to be to de-escalate the military situation and keep up contacts with the LTTE so that direct negotiations could be resumed later. There have been no direct talks between the government and Tamil groups since the collapse of the Thimpu talks more than a year ago when the Tamil groups walked out of talks in Bhutan.

Captain Rahim stressed Saturday that the group would talk directly with the Colombo government but only if India, which has acted as a mediator in the talks, remain involved. The Colombo government has proposed to Indian mediators the setting up of an inter-provincial committee to work out plans for the future together, and two Indian ministers will pass this on to Tamil representatives in the next few days, diplomatic sources said.

The Tamils have demanded the merger of the Northern and Eastern Provinces to create a Tamil homeland, while Colombo has proposed instead a division of the provinces along ethnic lines between the Tamil, Sinhalese, and Moslem populations.

LTTE Reportedly Violated Christmas Cease-Fire

BK261143 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam violated the Christmas truce yesterday. Official sources told LANKA PUWATH that a gang of LTTE terrorists raided the village of (Puliandi) of Gomarayankadawala in the Trincomalee District in eastern Sri Lanka and shot at the home guard. Troops rushed to the scene and the terrorists are reported to have fled. One terrorist who was carrying a grenade was captured. He has been identified as Mustafa, alias Jabbar. The terrorists had earlier agreed to observe the truce called by the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali.

Tamil Radio on Police Raid in Tamil Nadu

BK261457 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1331 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students] has reported in Madras that Rameswaram [a coastal town in Tamil Nadu] police stormed the EROS camp in the Thanga chimadam area of Rameswaram on Wednesday [24 December] and seized the belongings from there. It was reported that at the time of the raid that the camp was closed; there was nobody there; and that an EROS supporter was detained for questioning.

Tamil Radio Refutes Press Report on Sponsorship

BK251656 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] The Communist Party of Tamil Eelam expresses deep concern over a wrong report published by the English daily, *The Hindu* from Madras about the Voice of Tamil Eelam radio in its edition of day before yesterday. This paper reported that the Eelam Revolutionary Communist Party — ERCP — is the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam and its radio is the Voice of Tamil Eelam. The Madras correspondent of the Voice of Tamil Eelam has pointed out to *The Hindu* editor that there is no (?truth) in this report.

The Communist Party of Tamil Eelam is the official party of teh Tamil speaking people of Tamil Eelam. The Communist Party of Tamil Eelam, which enjoys the confidence and trust of the progressive forces in and out of Tamil Eelam and strongly professes the revolutionary, socialist ideologies, has been operating the Voice of Tamil Eelam as its authentic radio. The Voice of Tamil Eelam expresses to the world the feelings of the people of Tamil Eelam and the (?principles) of all the progressive forces.

Talks Held With U.S. Bankers on Frozen Assets

LD291150 Hilversum International Service in English 1130 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] In The Hague Iranian and American bankers are meeting to discuss $500 million in Iranian funds frozen in U.S. bank accounts. The sums were frozen after American diplomats at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran were taken hostage. The talks are being attended by representatives of the central banks of both countries and by officials of the U.S. Department of Finance. The meeting has been held under the auspices of the Iranian-U.S. Claims Tribunal, which was set up as a result of the 1981 Algeria accord, which ended the U.S. hostage crisis in Iran.

Signs Termed 'Optimistic'

LD291650 Tehran IRNA in English 1643 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] London, Dec 29 IRNA — Signs are more optimistic that America will move towards finally returning Iranian assets frozen by the United States since 1979. With the U.S. resuming talks with Iran in The Hague Monday, the London *Independent* focuses on dlrs 500 million of Iranian funds held by America by a European bank, which it feels can be resolved without having to resort to a special tribunal.

The paper quotes sources close to the tribunal saying that the U.S. has already agreed in principle to return the funds to Iran and that the only obstacle is a formal notice from Tehran's Central Bank unconditionally absolving the New York federal bank of any accountability for how it administers the money. The newspaper points out, however, that the dlrs 500 million is "only a fraction of the estimated dlrs 9 billion" seized by the U.S. after relations were severed between the two countries 7 years ago. It calls The Hague tribunal "unique" being that it is the only forum in which Iranian and American officials sit down together.

Like *The Independent*, the *Financial Times* links the discussions with reports that Tehran may be prepared to use its influence with groups in Lebanon holding American citizens if the United States released its assets. With the Reagan administration currently beset by the controversy over supplying arms, the *Financial Times* says it would "dearly like to secure the release" of at least five of its personnel held in Lebanon. For the paper, the readiness of the two sides to resume talks suggests a "reasonable chance of a deal."

Tudeh Official Views Impact of 'Irangate'

PM291445 London MORNING STAR in English 29 Dec 86 p 7

[Article by (J. Omid), representative in Britain of Iranian Tudeh Party: "U.S. Backing the Side Destined for the Ash Heap of History"]

[Text] The unfolding Irangate saga has centered on its damaging effect on the Reagan administration. Here, (J. Omid), a representative in Britain of the Tudeh Party, examines the effect of the scandal in Iran.

The "Irangate" affair, as it is called in the Western media, is acquiring new dimensions with each passing day. What seemed to be a small news item in *Al-Shira'* newspaper has shaken both the Reagan administration and Khomeyni's regime.

Hasan Sabra, the 38-year-old editor of the Lebanese newspaper *Al-Shira'* said on December 15 in Beirut that the story was deliberately leaked to him by the Mehidi Hashemi group — Hashemi is the son-in-law of Ayatollah Montazeri, Khomeyni's chosen successor — as part of a power struggle between the various factions of the ruling regime in Tehran.

On November 10, the Ministry of Information (Security Ministry) announced that Mehidi Hashemi and some of his associates had been arrested and were being questioned.

The official reasons for their arrest were: Their activities against the Foreign Ministry, the kidnapping of Syrian ambassador in Tehran, and so on.

Several days later, a number of MP's, army officers, as well as members of the Revolutionary Guards and other officials were arrested in connection with a leaflet which was distributed in Iran, exposing the covert dealings with the U.S. and Rafsanjani's role in this affair.

The secret relation between the treacherous leaders of the Islamic Republic and the U.S., over the recent years has been exposed several times by the revolutionary forces, as far back as 1983.

Following the fascistic onslaught on the Tudeh Party of Iran, we wrote several times of the co-operation between the CIA, Israeli intelligence, Mosad, and the British intelligence services with the repressive organs of the Khomeyni regime.

During recent weeks, on the long-standing relations between Washington and the Islamic Republic, *The Washington Post* wrote: "Before the Islamic Republic of Iran attacked the Tudeh Party of Iran, the CIA submitted a list of Tudeh Party activists to Khomeyni's regime, as a consequence of which 200 Tudeh members were executed, the party leaders were imprisoned, and the Tudeh Party of Iran was banned."

On June 14, 1984, *Nameh Mardom*, the central organ of our party, commented on the deceitful and criminal role of imperialism in the region in helping both regimes to continue the Iran-Iraq war.

It wrote: "Hand in hand with and arising with the secret love affairs between the leaders of the Islamic Republic and the U.S., some time ago Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz announced its readiness for the resumption of diplomatic relations and the renewal of arms deals with the U.S.

'However, the lack of official relations between the U.S. and Iran has not stopped Iran buying billions of dollars of U.S. arms from third countries like Israel and South Korea."

Our party restated in its recent National Conference that as a result of the betrayal of the goals of the revolution, Khomeyni

and other leaders of the Islamic Republic reached a compromisie with the U.S. and reactionary forces worldwide, thus re-installing the lost positions of world imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism in Iran.

In Iran, the response of the officials to the "Irangate" revelations has been one of deceit.

Khomeyni claims that Reagan's emissaries were "put under close observation" immediately upon arrival and that they did not succeed in meeting those they wanted to contact.

This is quite clearly not true.

It is said that soon after landing, the passengers of McFarlane's plane were met by a high-level Iranian delegation led by Mr Sa'adatian, from the Foreign Ministry, Colonels Javidinia, Zare', Amin and Badid from the Ministry of Defence and the deputy of logistics section as well as Hoseyn Morteza'e, from the Revolutionary Guard Corps.

Accompanying McFarlane was a monarchist, Fardin Azimi, a close associate of Aqazadeh, the Iranian oil minister. Azim, who is an arms smuggler, acted as the interpreter.

According to the news received, a number of the regime's leaders headed by Rafsanjani were fully informed and met with McFarlane in Independence (Hilton) Hotel in Tehran, and they ensured the U.S. party of full confidentiality.

It is also known that Sa'adatian and some members of the parliament, Dr Hadi, chair of the foreign relations commission of the Islamic parliament, Lava Sanie, deputy foreign minister, as well as the personal representative of Khamene'i, met the U.S. delegation.

In the following days various issues were discussed including the U.S. hostages in Lebanon, relations with Syria, the "Afghanistan problem," the Iran-Iraq war, negotiations between Iran and the Soviet Union and oil and gas exports, as well as the receipt of military hardware and spare parts.

The reactionary leaders of the Islamic Republic have been trying to win the favour of U.S. imperialism for a long time now.

In a statement issued by the central committee of the Tudeh Party, November 24 1986, our party said: "In reality the secret negotiations of the rulers of the Islamic Republic with the White House to co-ordinate relations at present is the result of a process of changes in the internal and external relations of the Islamic Republic....

"What is being exposed and emphasised now after four years once again reiterates the fact that attack upon the Tudeh Party of Iran was the bullet of imperialism and reaction into the heart of the revolution and the beginning of the compromise and dealings of the treacherous leaders of the Islamic Republic with the White House....

At the same time, repression and terror has been intensified by the regime.

In recent security manoeuvres in Tehran and other cities, hundreds were arrested including many cadres and members of our party and the Organisation of the Iranian People's Fedayeen (Majority).

In our view, the aim of all these operations was to service the imperialists' domination in Iran, to exploit the immense oil resources of the area and to suppress all the national liberation movements in the region.

The working people of our country will continue the struggle against the reactionary Islamic Republican regime until its overthrow.

No force can resist the will of the people. The people of Iran have the final say over the destiny of our homeland.

Khomeyni and his followers will undoubtedly have the same fate as their predecessors who were backed by the White House; the ash heap of history.

[Editorial note: boxed off within the body of the above item is the following unattributed item entitled "U.S.-Iran Deal Exposed":]

The text of what was discussed in the meeting with the U.S. Delegation is published in the highly secretive internal weekly bulletin of the fourth office of the Information Security Ministry, which is used exclusively by the political, military and security leaders of the Islamic Republic.

According to the bulletin, the U.S. delegation stated: "What is of utmost importance for Washington is the agreement of the Iranian government with the U.S. demands of establishing two stations in Iran against Communist Russia.

"We would like to inform you that with these two stations we would be able to monitor all Russian activities in the Central Asian republics, especially their missile testings.

"Our advance electronic equipment can control all the messages and the electronic communications of the Communist government of Russia all along the southern parts of Iran (Persian Gulf).

"From our government's point of view this information is of vital importance for our friendship and the stabilization of a strong and anti-Communist Iran."

Khamene'i Message Urges Halt to Iraqi Attacks

LD290945 Tehran IRNA in English 0929 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 29, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i in a message to the Head of the Non-Aligned Movement Robert Mugabe Sunday urged him to press Iraqi regime to stop its attacks on Iranian civilian areas. In his message the president who is also the head of the Supreme Defence Council, said that the recent escalated Iraqi attack on various Iranian cities has once again claimed lives of hundreds of innocent Iranian children and women.

Iraqi attacks on mosques, hospitals, schools and homes of cities of Eslamabad-e Gharb, Bakhtaran, Dezful,, Andimeshk, Haft Tappeh, Ahvaz, and Imam Khomeyni Port have made it necessary to draw the attention of international bodies and the movement to their responsibilities, said the message.

The president pointed out that the Islamic Republic of Iran expects the movement more than other international organisations to meet its grave responsibilities vis-a-vis the Iraqi attacks and acts of mischief, it concluded.

ICO Secretary General Arrives; Meets Velayati

LD281545 Tehran IRNA in English 1450 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 28, IRNA — Secretary-General of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) Sayeed Sharifuddin Pirzada arrived here Sunday afternoon and was welcomed by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Speaking to reporters on his arrival the ICO secretary-general said that his visit to Iran is aimed at exchanging views on various issues, including the next summit meeting of the ICO which is to be held in Kuwait in January 1987.

Asked if the ICO agenda includes any new suggestions on the Iraq-imposed war, Pirzada said that he would discuss the issue with Iranian officials.

Foreign Minister Velayati told IRNA that Pirzada is here to review Iran-ICO relations. The Iranian officials will brief the ICO secretary-general on the Islamic Republic's stance on various issues, he assured.

Velayati expressed hope that the ICO, with a new secretariat, coupled with the efforts of the new secretary-general, Pirzada, would be a fountain-head of constructive moves by the organizaton. The foreign minister further said that one billion Muslims are looking forward to an Islamic organization in the real sense of the word to preserve their interests in the world. "If we want to safeguard the interests of the Islamic countries we require a positive review and more serious outlook in this matter", he said.

Pakistan's Sharifuddin Pirzada took over the post of secretary-general from Tunisia's Habib Chatti.

Kuwait as ICO Meeting Venue Viewed

LD281910 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 28, IRNA — The Kuwaiti Government should at least profess neutrality in the Iraqi-imposed war if it wants to be a successful venue for the forthcoming meet of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO), Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said here Sunday. The remark was made in response to the request of the visiting ICO Secretary-General Sharifuddin Pirzada who asked Iran to send a top level delegation to the conference. Velayati regretted Kuwait's stance on the imposed war which he said had so far not changed. "If you think Kuwait can compensate for its past mistakes and adopt a neutral stance, we will take into consideration the level of Iran's participation at the conference, if any," Velayati told Pirzada.

Referring to the Iraqi aggression on Iran, Velayati said that Iranian Muslim combatants will powerfully pursue their justified goals in the war. The foreign minister warned that if ICO does not adopt a just stance vis-a-vis the war, time may not offer it any opportunity for correction later. "ICO is an important body and should fulfill its responsibilities," he added. ICO should step up its efforts to resolve the difficulties faced by Muslims in political and international scenes, the foreign minister noted.

Pirzada arrived here Sunday afternoon.

Khamene'i Urges Strong Islamic Stance

LD292111 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Organisation Sharifuddin Pirzada, who is in Tehran, during a meeting this morning with President Khamene'i and Foreign Minister Velayati outlined the aims and the method of holding the next Islamic summit. He expressed the hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran would take part in the session at the highest level. He stressed: The presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the session has a great deal of importance.

Then, describing the importance of the work of the ICO, President Khamene'i said: Today, the Islamic world is facing new problems, such as Zionism; the issue of Lebanon and Afghanistan; and aggression against lands, culture, and wealth of Muslim nations by pagan powers or their puppet agents. All these problems require coordination among Islamic nations. This issue, in itself, adds to the importance of the work of the ICO.

Stressing the point that the ICO should act in accordance with Islamic principles and standards, he added: This organization should in fact be in the form of a trench for the defense of Islamic nations and principles in the world. It should base its stances and views on Islamic principles. The ICO should create a power in itself, which could take a strong and decisive stance regarding the existing disputes in the Islamic world, especially in the face of over aggression.

Referring to the point that, unfortunately, in the 6 years of aggression by the Iraqi regime against Iran, the ICO has not taken a decisive stance yet, he stressed that the organization should be active in decisively confronting issues. He added: The Islamic Republic of Iran seriously declares her readiness to make the organization more active in implementing Islamic Goals.

Stressing the importance of holding the Islamic summit in a country that supports justice and righteousness, and that is impartial, he said: The next Islamic summit should be held in a neutral country. Therefore, the ICO should not repeat its historic mistake in selecting Casablanca for the session. Since the ICO is a place for reviewing the most important issues in the Muslim world, it should be in a place where the heads of Islamic states can review the problems of the Islamic countries with peace

of mind and with a sense of security, not in a country that has wars on her borders or on her doorstep.

Further on Iraqi Solidarity Conference

Montazeri Addresses Attendees

LD290925 Tehran IRNA in English 0910 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Qom, Dec 29, IRNA — Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri in an address to a group of Iraqi dissidents who attended the Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation, here Sunday called for unity of all Iraqi opposition groups in their struggle against the ruling Baghdad regime.

The future spiritual leader of the Islamic Revolution in his address to members of the Iraqi opposition who called on him stressed that the spirit of self-sacrifice and a willingness to be martyred ensures the continuity of Islamic principles. In this crucial period he added, people should rise and protect Islam and Muslims. If Islam is in danger, he told the visitors, our responsibility is clear.

Referring to [the] anti-Islamic nature of the Iraqi regime, Ayatollah Montazeri said that the ruling Iraqi regime and a number of other regimes of the Islamic world are working against the interests of Muslims. Muslims, in fulfillment of their Islamic duty should stand against injustice, he said.

Ayatollah Montazeri further told the guests who included a number of Iraqi militant ulema and those from other countries, that the Iraqi uquma should get their message across to the Iraqi Armed Forces personnel and people both inside and outside Iraq so that they can fulfill their covenant with Islam, God, and the Prophet.

Some of the Iraqi military personnel are under the impression that the Iraqi-imposed war is a war between Persians and Arabs. It is the responsibility of the Iraqi ulema to make it clear to all that Iran has no territorial ambitions on Iraq and that its concern is for the well-being of Islam.

At present, he pointed out, resignation to fate and being patient makes no sense. "Once you unitedly rise up against the Iraqi regime, propaganda of Husayn of Jordan and Mubarak of Egypt portraying the war as one between Arabs and Iranians will be ineffective," he added.

At the end Ayatollah Montazeri urged the guests not to suffice at only the holding of conferences, and called on them to follow up the issue vigorously. He also invited all Iraqi Muslim militants and opposition groups to greater unity and pointed out that they should avoid any schism.

The four-day Conference of the Iraqi People's Cooperation was held in Tehran with the participation of more than 400 Iraqi opposition personalities. It ended Saturday with the issuing of a 17-point resolution.

Khomeyni Receives Iraqi Delegates

LD291247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Delegates attending the Iraqi people's solidarity conference were received by Imam Khomeyni this morning at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran [a mosque next to Khomeyni's residence]. The chairman of the conference, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Hashemi-Golpayegani, reported to the imam of the nation on the work of the conference and its successful outcome. He referred to the victory of the Islamic Revolution, led by the imam of the nation, as a source of hope for the world's oppressed peoples and the revival of Islam throughout the world. [passage omitted]

He said: The conference met in Tehran for 4 days. Having formed five committees, we adopted decisions in an atmosphere of complete sincerity regarding the fall of Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi Zionist regime. We also surveyed the future of Iraq. The following decisions were adopted:

1. On international political activities against Saddam;
2. On the escalation of armed struggle inside Iraq;
3. On the human rights issue and Saddam's crimes;
4. On the imposed war; and
5. On determining Iraq's future policy as dictated by Iraqi people's pronouncement after the fall of Saddam.

Hashemi-Golpayegani then termed the decisions taken by the conference as important and overriding. He said: The formation of the central secretariat of the conference in Tehran until the fall of Saddam was approved. Within it, political and military committees, a human rights committee, and a committee to study Iraq's future constitution will continue their work. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, the imam of the nation responded to sentiments expressed by the delegates.

Time Said 'Right' for Conference

NC281147 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group: "The Successful Completion of the Conference on Solidarity with the Iraqi People"]

[Text] The 4-day Conference on Solidarity With the Iraqi People has come to an end. It concluded with a speech by Hojjat ol-Eslam Val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the adoption of a 17-point resolution. Participating in this conference were more than 400 Iraqi militants, most of whom are continuing their multi-faceted struggle against the Iraqi regime in several countries of the world, using a variety of military and cultural methods. Clear-sighted, non-Iraqi militants of international standing were also invited in order to render the popular struggles more effective and extensive.

Given the stage reached by the Iraqi people's current struggle and the need for the Iraqi militants to prepare new initiatives based on common principles, the time was right for a conference

on solidarity with the Iraqi people. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran, aware of the current need for a popular movement on the domestic front, wisely decided to hold such a conference. This move was warmly welcomed by all groups struggling against the Iraqi Ba'thist regime.

The clear outcome of the conference, the atmosphere of understanding and friendship that prevailed during the search for suitable solutions, as well as the thorough discussion of problems, especially in the committees, exemplified the healthy nature and Islamic climate of the conference.

During the 4 days of the conference, more than 40 speeches were heard, most of which centered on basic matters which were summed up accurately in the various committees. The most important topics discussed by the committees were as follows: first, Iraq's future strategy under a new regime based on the principles of independence, territorial integrity, and national unity; second, ways of carrying out the political struggle against the Iraqi regime; third, the imposed war and the reasons for the Iraqi regime's aggression against Islamic Iran; fourth, ways of stepping up and extending the armed struggle; and fifth, human rights in Iraq.

Among the important events of this conference were speeches by eminent and militant internationally known figures from various countries, who made valid and accurate observations on methods of struggle drawn from experience in confronting oppression in Third World countries. These can of course contribute to the struggle and to the formation of a common front against the 'Aflaqite regime. Furthermore, as stated in the resolution, the (?submissiveness) of the Iraqi nation and the oppression that has existed in that country ever since the British colonialist era were also stressed. It was agreed that international propaganda media should be used to make the cry of the oppressed Iraqi nation heard in the world. The Iraqi people are caught in the prison of Zionist Saddam who, with the martyring of the ulema and mojahedin headed by Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Baqer Sadr and Ayatollah Hakim, has brought great pressure to bear on opponents; the Iraqi nation knows that it is only by increasing public awareness and by waging a united, extensive, and multifaceted struggle that it can be liberated from the prison of the Iraqi regime.

Among the points emphasized by participants in the conference and mentioned in various sections of the resolution was the deployment of resources belonging to the oppressed Iraqi nation. This point provided a foundation for the Conference on Solidarity With the Iraqi People. Speakers from various countries, as well as Iraqi militants, emphasized this particular point in their speeches. The untapped resources and the surging wave of talent which exist within the Iraqi people have the potential to direct the Iraqi nation's struggles and destiny.

The final resolution stressed the need to confront Saddam, who is considered to be an element of sedition in the region and who has risen against the Islamic Republic of Iran with the help of world arrogance. The conference condemned all efforts to fan the flames of the war, as well as all resources sent to help protract it. The conference affirmed the Iraqi nation's refusal to obey any agreements signed with arrogant governments and mentors. The resolution noted that Iraq is a country with an Islamic identity. A referendum based on the principles and beliefs of the Iraqi people will be held in the future to determine the country's ruling system.

The speech delivered by Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, which discussed basic points pertaining to the fulfillment of Iraq's future objectives, was recorded as an official document of the conference. A council of experts will soon be formed to prepare Iraq's constitution.

The Islamic Republic's initiative to hold this conference and to invite all the forces struggling against the Ba'thist Iraqi regime was a mission undertaken under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni following Iran's great victory over idolatry. The Islamic Republic of Iran today is considered to be the nucleus for the struggle between the world's oppressed and arrogant forces. There is no doubt that the successes that have been achieved in the political and military fields are the result of the intelligence and sagacity of Islamic personages who have been raised with the divine teachings of Islam. The successes accrued by the conference also stem from this fact. It was therefore necessary that those on Iraq's domestic front, with their tremendous human resources and experiences gained from various struggles, be gathered around a specific point. Such an axis point would be able to coordinate the actions of this front with the forces of Islam which have risen to confront the Iraqi regime's aggressions on the foreign front and inflict a blow against the 'Aflaqite regime internally.

Whatever is to fulfil and give meaning to the belief that the present regime in Iraq must be dissolved and a new future constructed must have the following characteristics: devotion to the struggle for Islam, unity, and coordination that will preserve Islamic society, the universality of the movements for struggle, the popular nature of such movements, and a realistic and correct use of military plans and potential.

Anniversary of Afghanistan Occupation Marked

News Conference Held in Qom

LD241453 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] On the eve of the seventh anniversary of occupation of Afghanistan by the aggressive Soviet forces, several Afghan political and religious figures, and representatives of the Islamic groups and militant parties of Afghanistan held a news conference in Qom today, answering questions of the mass media correspondents and explaining their own views on the internal situation in Afghanistan, the role played by the Islamic Republic to remove discord among the hostile factions of Afghanistan, and the influence of the glorious revolution of the Iranian nation on the trend of justice-seeking struggle of the Muslim people of Afghanistan.

A representative of Afghanistan's Islamic parties said: The Afghan nation, on the basis of its Islamic and religious motives, has been going through blood and fire during the past 8 years. Thanks to divine succour and deep understanding among the

mujahidin, the noble combatants, and the Muslim nation, many hard mountainous passes have been crossed and during this unequal war against the occupying forces we have managed to foil many enemy plots; and since the essence of the revolution of the Muslim people of Afghanistan is Islam and is inspired by the Islamic Revolution of Iran, global imperialism who, on the one hand has experienced the bitter taste of defeat in Iran, and on the other hand is incapable of confronting the Afghan warriors directly, has lost most of its interest in the region, and panic-stricken with the resurgence of Islam and the ever-increasing return of the world nations toward this divine school, global imperialism has resorted to new conspiracies.

Another representative of Afghanistan's Islamic parties, in connection with the forming of a united front between the parties and the struggling groups and solidarity in the ranks of the Afghan strugglers and mujahidin, said: International and regional bandits, and even some domestic briganda, have ambushed and are waiting to see a weakness in the ranks of the mujahidin and strugglers in order to penetrate their midst and to deliver their blows. Studying these problems carefully makes one realize that the difficult path will not reach any destination by slogans alone. However, our nation, through its bravery and selflessness, has proved that the problems can be solved. Today, in the global and international arena, we do not have a sincere ally, except the sympathetic stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on which we can rely. Therefore, in order to increase the chance of achieving success in our struggle, and in order to make the enemy more vulnerable, all the Afghan parties and warring groups should join hands; and along this path, the stronger the ranks of the true warriors, the heavier the enemy losses will be.

One of the religious-political personalities of Afghanistan, speaking about the role played by the clergy in the Afghan people's Islamic movement, said: The role of the clergy in Afghanistan is significant on two fronts: First, on the front of the armed struggle, and second in the war of faith, because the occupying forces, who have now conceded defeat in Afghanistan, are trying to deliver a blow at Islam by pretending themselves to be Muslims. They are trying to brainwash the people with their own wrong idealogies.

A representative of Afghanistan's Islamic groups, referring to the issue that all through history there have been leftist elements in every revolution who lean toward the reactionary forces, in connection with the links between some struggling Afghan parties and the arch satan, the United States, and their request for its assistance, said: Our objectives in the war against the Russian occupiers are: first, to eject the invaders, and second to defend the exalted and sacred aspirations of Islam, in order to establish a neither pro-East nor pro-West government in Afghanistan. If Russia is an aggressor, the United States has also been aggressive in other regions and still is.

In connection with the losses and casualties suffered by the occupying Russian forces since the start of their aggression, another representative of Afghanistan's Islamic groups said: On the basis of statistics given inside the territory of Afghanistan, during the past 7 years of the military invasion about 120,000 Soviet soldiers, officers, and advisors have entered Afghanistan and during this period the Afghan mujahidin have killed about 10,000 of them. The aggressive forces have also suffered heavy losses in arms and materials.

At the conclusion of this conference, the audience said prayers for health and long life of the imam of the nation, final victory for the combatants of Islam, and the liberation of the land of Afghanistan and other oppressed nations.

Afghan Refugees Hold Demonstrations

LD271822 Tehran IRNA in English 1810 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 27, IRNA — Thousands of Afghan refugees here called for the unconditional withdrawal of Soviet occupying forces from their country in a demonstration Saturday on the 7th anniversary of occupation of Afghanistan (Dec 27). The demonstrators chanted slogans stressing the need for continued struggle until an Islamic government is established in the country as well as demanding that Soviet troops leave the country.

Two leading figures of Afghan Islamic groups talked at the rally on the popular struggles of Afghan people. They too called for continued struggle until the establishment of an Islamic government in their country.

Similar ceremonies were held in other Iranian cities.

Larijani, Afghan Front Leaders Meet

LD291726 Tehran IRNA in English 1712 GMT 29 dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 29, IRNA — The fruits of the revolution should be owned by the proprietor of the tree, and the owners of the revolution are those who are fighting in the bunkers, said the Deputy Foreign Minister for International Affairs Mohammad Javad Larijani in a meeting with various Afghan freedom party leaders and front representatives.

Larijani who was talking to the Afghans on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the occupation of Afghanistan also said that if one day the Soviets leave Afghan territory then their reason for doing so would have been the struggle of the mujahidin.

He added that from the beginning the Geneva talks on the Afghan issue had four basic problems. Firstly the participants intended to solve the matter through East and West equations, secondly the Afghan mujahidin are not represented. Thirdly, the talks give legitimacy to the puppet regime of Afghanistan and fourthly the aggressor benefits from the talks by getting the mujahidin to abandon the people's armed struggle in favor of a negotiated settlement to the issue.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement

LD261705 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] In a statement issued today by the Foreign Ministry on the occasion of the anniversary of the occupation of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran has reiterated its support for the efforts

being made by the Muslim Afghan nation to gain the right to decide its own future. The statement notes that the key solution to the Afghanistan problem is an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of military forces, an end to the occupation of Afghanistan, an end to interference by arrogant governments, the preparation of the necessary conditions for an honorable return of the refugees, and recognition of Islamic Afghanistan's independence and territorial integrity. The statement considers any talks concerning the settlement of the Afghanistan problem without the consideration of the stated conditions and without participation of the true representatives of the Afghan nation as futile.

Envoy to Syria Briefs Majlis Speaker on Lebanon

LD291016 Tehran IRNA in English 1002 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 29, IRNA — The Iranian Ambassador to Syria Mohammad Hasan Akhtari conferred with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, here Sunday afternoon.

During the meeting Akhtari briefed the Majlis speaker on issues concerning southern Lebanon, and the camps war between Amal and Palestinian forces. He further said the Iranian peace plan to end the clashes has been relatively successful.

According to the report ways to speed up the implementation of the peace plan were evaluated, Irano-Syria relations were reviewed, and ways to confront the Zionist regime and the clashes in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli were discussed.

Received by Khamene'i

LD292110 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 29, IRNA — Iranian Ambassador to Damascus Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Hasan Akhtari met with President 'Ali Khamene'i here Monday and briefed him on the latest developments of the camps-war in Lebanon. He also reported to the presidnet on the country of his assignment.

President Khamene'i gave Akhtari some guidelines concerning Tehran-Damascus relations, regional developments, and the situation of Lebanon.

Akhtari had earlier met Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Sunday.

Sri Lankan Economic, Oil Delegation Arrives

LD281626 Tehran IRNA in English 1509 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 28, IRNA — Sri Lanka's Minister of Finance and Planning Ronald De Mel heading an economic-oil delegation arrived here Sunday and was welcomed at the airport by Iranian Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari.

Upon his arrival, De Mel told IRNA that during his six-day visit here he would submit President 'Ali Khamene'i a message from his Sri Lankan counterpart Junius Jayewardene and hold talks with Iranian officials on expansion of Tehran-Colombo economic and commercial relations. He also announced that Sri Lanka is still willing to import oil from Iran and export tea to this country.

The Iranian commerce minister also said that talks would be held with the Sri Lankan delegation on Iran's purchase of tea, rice, and spices from Sri Lanka in return for oil and non-oil commodities.

Trade Talks Open

LD281917 Tehran IRNA in English 1810 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 28, IRNA — The first round of talks between visiting Sri Lankan Minister of Finance and Planning Ronald De Mel and Iranian Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari started here Sunday. During the meeting, also attended by ranking Iranian Oil and Foreign Affairs Ministries officials, De Mel announced his country's interest in expanding its relations with the Islamic Republic in various fields.

In response, Ja'fari said that there are good grounds on the basis of which the two countries can promote their commercial relations. He also said that efforts should be made to boost the volume of Tehran-Colombo trade as well as Iran's non-oil exports to Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lankan finance and planning minister arrived here Sunday at the head of a delegation.

Sri Lankan Minister, Zanjani Meet

LD291949 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 29, IRNA — The visiting Sri Lankan Minister of Finance and Planning Ronald De Mel conferred with Iran's minister of budget and planning, Ma'sud Roghani Zanjani, on bilateral economic and technical cooperation especially trade exchanges here Monday afternoon. Talks were also held on ways Iran can contribute to the execution of development plans of Sri Lanka particularly in dam-construction.

The Sri Lankan minister arrived here Sunday at the head of an economic-oil delegation.

Pakistani Oil, Economic Delegation Arrives

LD241909 Tehran IRNA in English 1519 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 24, IRNA — Pakistan's Deputy Oil Minister Ezhar ul-Haq [title as received] heading an economic delegation arrived here Wednesday at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili.

During its three-day visit here, the Pak [abbreviation as received] delegation will discuss matters of mutual interest with the Iranian oil and economic officials.

Discussions Begin

LD252204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Iranian and Pakistani officials today started discussions in Tehran about the purchase of 1 million metric tons of Iranian crude and the sale of Pakistani goods to Iran. According to the report of the Central News Unit, Deputy Minister of Energy and Natural Resources of Pakistan Mr Ezhar ul-Haq accompanied by a number of officials from Pakistan's Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, as well as the director of Karachi Oil Refinery who are in Tehran today, met with Mr Mohammad Javad Iravani, minister of economy and finance and the Iranian chairman of the joint Iran-Pakistan Economic Commission. They discussed ways to implement the economic memorandum that was signed between the two countries last summer and the means to eliminate executive problems associated with its implementation.

In this meeting the Iranian minister of economy and finance, emphasizing the importance of the mutual implementation of the economic memorandum by the two countries, expressed his hope that if the Pakistani side implements its commitments within the framework of that memorandum, the Islamic Republic of Iran will purchase a considerable quantity of goods from Pakistan.

According to this report, following the discussions of the Pakistani delegation with Deputy Oil Minister of Iran Kazempur-Ardabili, it was announced that in this meeting the question of the sale of 1 million metric tons of oil to Pakistan during the coming year has been discussed. The Iranian deputy oil minister told our correspondent that within this framework, it has been decided that from next January the Islamic Republic of Iran will deliver about 100,000 metric tons of oil per month to Pakistan.

According to earlier agreements between the two countries, during the coming year Pakistan will export $50 million worth of goods, mainly in the form of rice and textiles, to Iran. The two countries will study the possibility of increasing this figure and the purchase of other items, including wheat and sugar, from Pakistan.

Oil Minister Says OPEC Outcome 'Successful'

LD281859 Tehran IRNA in English 1643 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Tehran, Dec 28, IRNA - - Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh briefed Sunday's cabinet session on the upward trend of the oil prices after the latest OPEC meet held earlier this month.

Aqazadeh also reported on OPEC's production ceiling plans to boost oil prices. Describing the outcome of the 80th OPEC meeting as "successful" both from the economic and political point of view, he said it cut to size saboteurs like the Iraqi regime. [passage omitted]

Tehran on Implications of 'Karbala-IV'

NC290841 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group]

[Text] The devastating "Karbala-IV" operation was a calculated blow inflicted as a result of bothersome behavior by Iraq's 'Aflaqite regime. As such, it should be assessed from several different points of view.

First of all, the fighters of Islam crossed the Arvand Rud River and attacked fortifications held by the criminal enemy. They caused extensive damage, and killed or wounded more than 9,500 troops. This proves that the initiative all along the front rests with the Army of Islam and that its fighters can deliver their terrible strikes anywhere on the battlefield.

Politicians around the world have taken this into account, and as the French paper *Liberation* wrote: The "Karbala-IV" operation shows that Iran has the initiative in this war, and is determined to bring down Saddam's regime through successive blows.

"Karbala-IV" also taught Iraq's 'Aflaqite regime that if it continues to commit crimes and kill innocent residents of our towns, the fighters of Islam will retaliate. They will infiltrate deep inside Iraq, and, with their effective weapons, take direct revenge on the 'Aflaqite criminals at the front for the blood of innocent women and children they shed so unjustly.

Since the bloodthirsty 'Aflaqite enemy understands only the logic of force, it can only be brought to its senses through powerful blows. Only then will it reconsider its criminal plans, the murder of innocents, and the bombing of civilian targets. Those in our country who have suffered may rest assured that the criminal enemy has paid for some of its crimes and will bear heavier punishments in the future, as well.

"Karbala-IV" also carried a message for those supposedly responsible, international organizations, particularly the Security Council. If they adopt a policy of silence and indifference to the Iraqi regime's crimes, thus encouraging Iraq's 'Aflaqite regime to violate international law in one way or another each day, and to attack civilians, they will have ultimately paved the way for Baghdad's more rapid collapse. In addition, this action sent a signal to those global and regional groups that will be meeting in the future. The participants in the ICO summit, for instance, which is to be held in Kuwait, should consider the fact that the Muslim people of Iran are defending their legal rights. Indeed, their resolution in doing so is so great that the enemy's criminal policies will never make them flinch. Thus, those attending the conference should make a correct study of the war Iraq has imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran. The criminal acts by Iraq's 'Aflaqite regime, including its assaults on residential areas, sea-lanes, and civilian flight paths, as well as its use of chemical weapons, should be dealt with seriously.

One of the most important effects of "Karbala-IV" was that, to a certain extent, it clarified the general situation inside Iraq. The intense propaganda campaign launched by Baghdad's 'Aflaqite regime in the wake of this operation, and its futile attempts to

pass off its defeat as a victory to the Iraqi public, actually pointed to the existence of a grave psychological problem. Iraq has no alternative but to resort to lies and a burst of propaganda to free itself from this difficulty. A group of Iraqi commanders captured recently during "Karbala-IV" said: Your mass mobilization has greatly weakened the morale of Iraqi soldiers, and the men of the Iraqi Armed Forces fear the slightest movement by the fighters of Islam at the front.

One of the same prisoners added that Iraqi troops have been shaken. These confessions by Iraqi POW's explain the frenzied propaganda campaign begun by Baghdad's 'Alfaqite regime. The Ba'thist military, as well as the mentors of Iraq's 'Aflaqite regime, have realized that in view of the strength of the Army of Islam, the Islamic Republic is not bluffing. When it sends immense forces to the fronts it is taking strong and calculated measures. Commenting on this, an Iraqi officer taken captive recently noted: The Iraqi military has been making a careful analysis of Iran's social, military, and political resources for about a year now, and has concluded that the Iraqi Army lacks the strength to face the mammoth force of the Iranian people.

Given the spread of such opinions within the Armed Forces of Iraq's 'Aflaqite regime, it is only natural for Baghdad to make a stir, to use false propaganda to strengthen the morale of its men, and to encourage those deceived by Saddam to continue fighting. One can see some interesting themes in 'Aflaqite propaganda that make this fact clearer. By way of illustration, the 'Aflaqite regime is doing its best to portray "Karbala-IV" as a wide-ranging action. It also claimed that this was the decisive operation by the fighters of Islam. This reflects the fear which Iraq's 'Aflaqite regime has of the Islamic Army's destiny-making offensive. Iraq's criminal leaders have actually admitted that their Armed Forces are gripped by terror and anxiety. They have tried to make it appear that, in one way or another, the Islamic Army's decisive operation is over. They are, at the same time, working to surmount the fear that controls the lives of Iraqi troops. Meanwhile, the Iraqi 'Aflaqite regime is attempting to distort the objectives of "Karbala-IV," and to ignore its victorious goals. By giving imaginary facts and figures on such matters as the damage sustained by the forces of Islam, the 'Aflaqite regime is trying to make the destruction of its own units — which was the primary aim of this operation — seem insignificant, and thus fool the oppressed people of Iraq. The ridiculous theatrics by the Baghdad regime, which included exchanges of messages, presentations of medals and honors, and artillery salutes, were all part of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime's puppet show designed to fool its own people and the world at large. What value do these absurd displays have for those who saw similar things after the "Val Fajr-8" operation? The Muslim people of Iraq, who can sense first hand the weakness of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime ruling their country, will not be tricked by this public deceit.

A Libyan publication had this to say recently about the blows the youth of Iraq have dealt to the feeble regime in Baghdad: The great economic crisis resulting from the Iraqi nation's involvement in a useless war has brought the downfall of the Baghdad regime closer. This publication, which described Saddam as Baghdad's Mussolini, added that the economic difficulties and debts owed by the U.S. imperialist mercenary regime in Iraq have led it to ask for loans from its European masters. However, Saddam's mentors know that his time is almost up, and have turned him down.

While Iraq's 'Aflaqite regime faces these grave problems, and finds a blind alley wherever it turns, it is relying more and more on the weapon of propaganda and is developing an ever greater dependence on it. In fact, the continued existence of this regime rests largely on two factors — words and weapons. The words are gradually losing their effect and the weapons are becoming blunt.

Communique No 2,699 Reports Iraqi Losses

LD281646 Tehran IRNA in English 1627 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text]Tehran, Dec 28, IRNA — Iraqi forces sustained heavy life and equipment losses throughout the fronts in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants on Saturday, siad a military communique here Sunday.

Communique Number 2,699 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that the Islamic combatants responded to Iraqi artillery fire in the western fronts Saturday destroying some Iraqi gun emplacements and several trucks carrying ammunition. Enemy fire was also silenced.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in the southern fronts Saturday, raging somewhat more heavily in Bubiyan, Zeyd, and Talayeh operational theaters as a result of which considerable casualties and losses were inflicted on Iraqi troops. Parts of enemy fortifications were also set ablaze in Pich-e Angizeh.

Iraqi tanks suffered heavy damage and their movements were halted in southern operational regions of Yabis and Basra by Iranian artillery fire Saturday.

Iranian forces shelled Iraqi troops and enemy armoured and motorized units in Kani-Sheykh, Helaleh, and Naft Shahr, western fronts, Saturday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on enemy troops.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique said, Iranian artillery pounded Iraqi positions in Piranshahr, Sardasht, and Marivan. Convoys of Iranian patrols successfully reconnoitered enemy positions and returned safely to bases.